

45. (New) A system as claimed in claim 44, wherein ~~at least one of said plurality of~~ printers comprises a stencil printer.

46. (New) A system as claimed in claim 45, wherein said stencil printer is registered at said printer selecting device beforehand as an essential printer, and wherein when said stencil printer is not identified at the time of operation, said printer selecting device outputs a preselected message meant for an operator.

47. (New) A system as claimed in claim 44, wherein at least one of said plurality of printers comprises a multiplex image processing machine including said image data supply device and said number setting device.

48. (New) A system as claimed in claim 44, wherein at least one of said plurality of printers comprises a multiplex image processing machine including said image data supply device, said number setting device, and said printer selecting device.

49. (New) A system as claimed in claim 44, wherein each of said plurality of printers includes a respective printer controller for receiving the image data, and wherein at least one terminal unit including said image data supply device, said number setting device and said printer selecting device and printer controllers of said plurality of printers are interconnected by a communication medium so as to interchange data.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the Abstract at page 32, lines 2-11 to read as follows:

A printing system including a plurality of different kinds of printers and a printer selecting device. The printer selecting device includes an accepting section for accepting information representative of a desired number of printings input, and selecting section for selecting one of the printers matching with the desired number of printings. Image data to be